From:	Nancy Gold
To:	McGovern, Marc
Cc:	Clerk
Subject:	Hewlett-Packard Issue
Date:	Sunday, April 22, 2018 12:54:46 AM

Dear Mayor McGovern (or should I say, Mayor Marc),

I have been proud to be a Cambridge resident for exactly 20 years, since Cambridge is clearly a city that cares about human rights, and I know from talking with you that you truly care about this too. As you know, sometime in the next couple of weeks, the City Council will be taking up the issue of Hewlett-Packard. You will see me testifying at that meeting because I feel very strongly about this issue, being Jewish and having visited the West Bank of Palestine in 2014.

Today I am incensed at the content of a mass mailing, which I assume all Cambridge residents are getting, phrased in such a way as to make people who are unfamiliar with the issue believe that BDS is bad. It urges people to call the City Council and "tell [the City Councilors] to *reject hate*." The fact is that Palestinians are suffering every day and that BDS is one of the few non-violent methods of protest against the daily life of cruelties under the Israeli occupation. And one more detail about the mass mailing: residents are told to "contact *our* City Council." "*Our*" City Council! But the mailing comes from a Los Angeles lobbying group, Israeli-American Coalition for Action, which in 2017 spent over half a million dollars on its lobbying activities.

As you probably know, Cambridge was in the vanguard of using consumer boycott against South African apartheid when in 1970 a boycott was organized against Polaroid, which profited from the passbooks that black South Africans were forced to show at checkpoints.

I urge you to please vote your conscience and progressive values when this issue comes to a vote and vote for justice and reject a politically expedient vote. It's really very simple: Cambridge should not buy products from companies that support oppression.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gold
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